

News and Notes
December 2022 Issue

Mayor Dr. Mona Becker

Common Council

Greg Pecoraro, President

Tony Chiavacci Kevin E. Dayhoff Ann Gilbert Dan Hoff

Mailing Address:

45 West Main Street Westminster, MD 21157

Important Phone Numbers:

Police 410-848-4646

Finance/Billing 410-848-3255

Recreation & Parks 410-751-5501



Westminster, Maryland: Holiday schedule changes, inclement weather and emergency information

City of Westminster Recreation & Parks Department: Events, parade information, fitness classes, park openings

Downtown
Westminster,
Maryland: News
about Downtown
Westminster, from
business openings
and specials to
events and business
news

Westminster Fiber
Network: Keep up to
date with the WFN

Saturdays with Santa

Visit Santa at the Carroll County Library - Westminster Branch (50 E Main Street) on December 3rd, 10th & 17th from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

While Downtown, take advantage of a FREE, horse-drawn carriage ride through Historic Westminster! Carriage rides pick up behind Life is...Pizza (Locust Lane) beginning at 12:00 p.m. and run until 4:00 p.m.

Saturday visits with Santa and carriage rides are free of charge.

Holiday Farmers' Market

The Downtown Westminster Farmers' Market will open its Holiday Market at 29 West Main Street on Saturday, November 26th. The Holiday Market is open Saturday November 26th, December 3rd, December 10th, and December 17th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Westminster Family Fitness Center

Are you looking for a gym to call home? Look no further than the Westminster Family Fitness Center! All the classes you want at no extra cost led by amazing instructors. Our welcoming classes will challenge you to move smarter, push harder, and show up inspired day after day. With everything you want from cardio and yoga to spinning and Barre, it's easy to find a class that fits you. Join our fitness family with special membership rates for City residents!

Westminster Needs YOU!

Are you interested in serving on a City Board, Commission, and/or Committee? To see the current vacancy list for City Boards, Commissions, and Committees, or to find out more information, visit our website at: https://www.westminstermd.gov/145/Boards-Commissions.





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City of Westminster - Municipal Election Notice

The City of Westminster will hold their 2023 Municipal Election on Tuesday, May 9, 2023. There are Three (3) Councilmember seats open for the 2023 Municipal Election, each to serve a Four-year term (expiring in 2027). The Election Packet, which includes official required paperwork to become a candidate, will be available on January 3, 2023, for pick-up at the City of Westminster Administration Building (45 West Main Street). If you have any questions please contact City Clerk Doug Barber at (410) 848-4938 or dabarber@westminstermd.gov. For more information, please visit the City of Westminster's website at www.westminstermd.gov, "Elections".

Register to Vote / Update Voter Registration

- Never a registered voter in Maryland? Register to vote <u>here!</u>
- Update your name, address or party affiliation <u>here.</u>

Disclaimer

The Carroll County Board of Elections is pleased to provide the information on this site as a service to the general public. We hope you will find the information useful and informative. Please note that election procedures and laws are subject to change, sometimes rapidly. As a result, we cannot guarantee that the information on our site will always be up to date, complete or reflect the latest legal rulings or interpretations.

For additional information, the staff is available during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please contact the office by calling 410-386-2080, by faxing 410-876-3925 or by e-mailing ccboe@carrollcountymd.gov.

300 South Center Street, Room 212 | Westminster, MD 21157 Phone:410-386-2080 | Fax: 410-876-3925



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Westminster Police Department Holiday Season Public Safety Tips

The Westminster Police Department's holiday wish is for all of our community members to have a safe and festive holiday season!

Take a Few Simple Steps to Prevent Package Thefts

- 1. Consider installing a video doorbell / security camera system.
- 2. Provide your delivery service with instructions to place packages in a secure location.
- 3. Keep tabs on your packages, so you know when they are expected and when they are delivered. Most delivery services have an option for you to sign up for these alerts.
- 4. When you are away from home for long periods, consider using "hub locker" or "counter services" as your delivery destination versus leaving your packages on your front porch for extended periods.
- 5. Opt for a "signature required" delivery for your more expensive packages.
- 6. Ask a trusted neighbor to hold your package delivery until you can retrieve it from them.
- 7. Consider having your package delivered to your workplace, if feasible and allowable.

What to Do If Your Packages are Stolen

- 1. Verify that the package was actually delivered and ensure that a family member didn't already retrieve it.
- Review your doorbell / security camera history to detect any activity.
- 3. Contact the Westminster Police Department to file a theft report at (410) 848-4646.
- 4. Contact your retailer. Verify their policy regarding package theft.
- 5. Contact your delivery service and verify their policy. Shipping companies typically require that you file a claim.
- 6. Contact your credit card provider. Certain credit card companies have purchase protection coverage for stolen items.

ATM Safety

- 1. Be aware of your surroundings when you exit your vehicle and approach an ATM. Criminals target potential victims who don't appear to be vigilant. Keep your head up and look around you. Appear confident.
- 2. Avoid being distracted by your cellphone during the same circumstance for the same reason. Criminals target potential victims who appear to be easy targets and avoid those who don't.
- 3. Plan your ATM visits during daylight hours when possible.
- 4. Physically check your ATM for a "skimming device." Criminals sometimes place a device over the part of the ATM where you insert your debit card. These devices look similar to the actual part, but are usually bulky or loose-fitting. If you suspect a "skimming device," don't use that ATM. Call the Westminster Police Department to report your suspicion (410) 848-4646.



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Westminster Volunteer Fire Department Friday Night Bingo

Held every Friday at the John Street Quarters, 28 John Street. Doors and kitchen open at 5:30 p.m., with games begining at 7:00 p.m. There is a \$3 admission charge per person, and only players 18 and older can collect cash payout. Food available, cash only. For more information about this event, check the WVFD website at: http://www.westminstervfd.org/westminster-firedepartment-bingo/.

Household Trash Schedule Changes for 2022

The following dates are recognized as holidays during 2022 and will result in altered schedules for household trash collection provided by Ecology Services.

- Christmas Day (December 25, 2022)
- New Years Day (January 1, 2023)

For these holiday weeks, if the collection day falls on the holiday, trash will be collected the next day. This includes Friday pick ups, which will be collected on Saturday.

Sign up to receive alerts!



Do you receive alerts from the City of Westminster? If you would like to receive them, sign up for an account on the City's website at http://www.westminstermd.gov/. The City uses Notify Me®, a mass notification system, to inform residents of emergency and general notifications such as changes to the refuse schedule.

Once signed in, you may select to receive information by phone text message or email. If you want to receive text messages, enter your phone number and select Save. Then, click the Email icon and/or SMS icon next to the requested subscription lists. The data collected is not shared with anyone else. The system ensures that timely, informative alerts go out to residents to keep them aware of the latest events impacting the community.